



ATF Association

January 14, 2019

Congressman Don Bacon
House of Representatives
1024 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Bacon,

On behalf of the men and women of the ATF Association (ATFA), thank you for introducing legislation to make much needed common-sense improvements to the language and spirit of the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (LEOSA.). We fully support the amendments you are offering and would like to express our interest in being listed as one of the supporting law enforcement associations.

Law enforcement officers receive extensive firearms related training throughout their normally decades long careers. This training isn't lost or forgotten upon retirement. The amendments you seek will help ensure that trained professionals can "step in" to provide assistance in emergency situations lawfully and with confidence.

We welcome the changes which would enable retired officers to carry firearms in Federal Gun Free School Zones, in National parks and on certain common carriers and private properties such as shopping malls.

Furthermore, we welcome your amendment on magazine capacity. The service weapons that most officers carry today and train with are autoloading pistols with large capacity magazines. Retired officers should be allowed to carry the same type of firearm and magazine they trained with and carried while on active duty and carry them anywhere according to the spirit of the LEOSA. We see the restrictions on magazine capacity by some States as very problematic causing confusion among many retired officers and exposing them to legal jeopardy.

Lastly, we welcome your amendment offering more options for firearm qualification. As you are aware, many States do not have firearm qualification standards, therefore, it is difficult to qualify to a standard that doesn't exist. In addition, many retired officers experience difficulties in finding agencies willing to qualify them. For example, many federal agencies do not qualify their retirees, causing them to seek out private sources.

We hope other members of Congress will join you and support and pass this legislation and that the President will sign it into law.

The men and women of the ATFA wish you well in this endeavor and thank you for your support of all retired law enforcement officers.

Sincerely,

Michael R. Bouchard
President, ATF Association